

SPONSOR: Sen. McDowell & Sen. Blevins &

Sen. Sokola; On behalf of all Senators; Reps.

Reynolds & Maier, On behalf of all Representatives

DELAWARE STATE SENATE

142nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35

DECLARING THE MONTH OF MAY 2004 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH, AND THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY AS CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK.

1 WHEREAS, the protection and development of children's mental health today are fundamental necessities to the 2 future progress and welfare of Delaware; 3 WHEREAS, one in five children in Delaware has a mental health problem; WHEREAS, ONE IN 10 children in Delaware has a serious mental health disorder that, if untreated, can lead to 4 5 school failure, physical illness, substance abuse and even suicide; 6 WHEREAS, two thirds of children and adolescents with mental illness do not seek treatment; 7 WHEREAS, well being in children is defined by their physical, emotional, and mental health; WHEREAS, the conservation and promotion of children's mental health places upon us a grave responsibility; 8 9 WHEREAS, it is appropriate that a month should be set apart each year for the direction of our thoughts towards our 10 children's mental health and well-being; 11 WHEREAS, the Delaware Department for Services to Children, Youth, and their Families, the Division of Child 12 Mental Health Services, the Families and Communities Together Project, and the Delaware Department of Education through their unique strength-based, child-first and family-driven approach to serving children and their families, and meeting the needs 13 14 of children with serious emotional disturbances have made it considerably easier for parents to get their children the care they 15 need today to ensure their children have a better tomorrow; BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 142nd General Assembly, the House concurring therein, that May 2004 is 16 17 hereby declared to be Delaware Mental Health Month and the first full week of May 2004 to be Children's Mental Health 18 Awareness Week and that the citizens of Delaware and all agencies and organizations interested in meeting every child's mental health are encouraged to unite throughout that Month in the observance of such exercises as will acquaint the people of 19

- 20 Delaware with the fundamental necessity of a year-round program for children with serious emotional disturbances and their
- 21 families.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution declares May 2004 to be Delaware Mental Health month, and the first week of May to be Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.

Author: Senator McDowell